

referenced by many who are concerned about issues of race and gender. She also pioneered early research focusing on the political socialization of African American children and youth.

As a leader in the discipline of political science, Jewel Prestage has served as an officer and on the executive council of many of the Nation's highly esteemed political science organizations. Her capstone accomplishment was her role in the founding of the professional organization, the National Conference of Black Political Scientists.

In recognition of her service and of her achievements, these organizations have honored her with their highest awards, including the National Conference of Black Political Scientists' Fannie Lou Hamer Award, the American Political Science Association's Frank Goodnow Award, and the Southern Political Science Association's Manning Dauer Award.

The Policy Studies Organization and the Southwestern Political Science Association have also elected to honor Dr. Prestage by creating awards in her name to recognize her outstanding academic achievement in the areas of race, gender, and politics.

Jewel Prestage has made many contributions in the field of community service and has been an outstanding community servant. In the late 1960s and 1970s, she worked to prepare many Southern politicians for the new public service opportunities that became available in the wake of the Voting Rights Act of 1965. A Democratic Party faithful, she has also served as a delegate and as an appointed member of the Judiciary Council of the Democratic National Committee.

While her distinguished career in higher education and public service has resulted in many achievements, Dr. Jewel Prestage's greatest legacy may be in the inspiration she has provided to the thousands of students she has taught and mentored. Her former students have obtained many accomplishments and can be found throughout academia, the business sector, and the government.

Former students have organized academic awards and scholarships in recognition and to honor her lifetime achievements. I am proud to say that Dr. Prestage was my teacher and my dean and she has had a lasting influence on my pursuit of public service. I will be forever grateful to her for what she did for me personally and for so many others like me.

When the life of a person exemplifies such a strong commitment, others often wonder about the source of their inspiration. Throughout the years, it has become clear to many that Jewel Prestage has a deep and abiding commitment to the advancement of her community. Through her activities at Southern University and Prairie View A&M University, she encouraged students to be the best that they could be so she could help them help their communities and help them to help our

country meet its need for more African Americans with professional and graduate degrees.

Jewel Prestage cares deeply about the diversity issues in America and believes that one way our future can be secured is by producing more committed individuals who can give back to the community while serving as an inspiration to young people.

Her activities in the public sphere have been encouraged and supported by her loving husband, Dr. James Prestage, and their five children: Terri Prestage-White, James Grady Prestage, Eric Warren Prestage, Karen Prestage-Washington, and Jay Wilkins Prestage.

Her efforts merit our great appreciation and our respect. I commend Dr. Jewel Prestage for her dedication and personal sacrifice that has generated so many positive experiences and wonderful memories for so many thousands. She is an outstanding model for our Nation and an excellent example of one person who has truly made a difference in our lives, in our community, and in our Nation.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Texas (Mr. PAUL) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Mr. PAUL addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

CONDITIONS IN IRAQ

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Texas (Mr. BURGESS) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. BURGESS. Mr. Speaker, I wanted to come tonight and tell you about a trip that I took at the end of August to the country of Iraq. I spent several days over in Baghdad, Tikrit, Mosul, and Babylon.

When I got back to this country, Mr. Speaker, I turned on the evening news at night and heard one of our national anchors talking about the situation in Iraq, and I thought for a minute I must have gotten on the wrong plane and ended up on the wrong planet, because I did not recognize the country he was describing, the country that I just left.

So, Mr. Speaker, I thought it was important to come address the House tonight and to let the House know what in fact is going on in Iraq and to let people in on the good news that is happening in that country since we liberated it.

In general, Mr. Speaker, when you get over there and look around, you are struck by the fact that life is going on as normal. The markets are active. There are cars in the street. In fact, we saw a couple of traffic jams, which certainly indicate a return to civil society.

Mr. Speaker, there are satellite dishes now on the rooftops of many of the houses and apartment buildings. I

would estimate 25 to 30 percent of the domiciles have satellite dishes, and just 4 months ago those were illegal under Saddam's rule.

Mr. Speaker, our troops on the ground have done an exemplary job, and currently there are approximately 5,000 projects that have been completed by the United States military.

□ 2200

Mr. Speaker, the police force, the Iraqi police force is truly a success story. This movement has been led by Bernard Kerik who, just 2 short years ago on 9-11 in New York, was the police commissioner and amazed the city with his outstanding leadership during that time of crisis and no surprise, he has been able to provide that same leadership in Iraq. His mission there was to teach the Iraqis how to learn to do police work in a free and democratic society. Previously, all of their police work had been based on brutality and corruption. Mr. Kerik has turned out over 37,000 Iraqi policemen back in uniform. He expects to be able to get 65,000 within the next 6 months.

Mr. Kerik has gone from zero to 35 precinct stations in Baghdad in a mere 14 weeks' time. He told us that given the present state of the bureaucracy, it would take him several years to accomplish that. He has made dramatic improvements in information technology, in communications but, most importantly, his training program stressed police work, police procedure, human rights, criminal investigations and, again, not the previous framework of brutality and corruption.

Mr. Speaker, the sad fact of the matter is that the governance in Iraq, 30 years of Saddam destroyed all sense of community. There is not much of civil society left. But town councils and city councils now exist in 90 percent of the towns and villages in Iraq. The new governing council that the coalition provisional authority is standing up has been drawn from all regions of the country. They are having a preparatory convention which will be followed by a constitutional convention, which will be followed by elections. No one is absolutely sure of the time line, but 12 to 24 months was the impression that we were given.

Mr. Speaker, probably the most searing aspect of my trip to Iraq to me as a doctor was my visit to the hospital. We also were privileged to go in several of Saddam's palaces and we were struck by the opulence. I will tell you the architecture was awful, but the opulence was striking. But contrast that, Mr. Speaker, to the large teaching hospital in downtown Baghdad, a 1,000-bed hospital where they do not even have linoleum on the floor. There are no medical gasses in their neonatal intensive care unit. They could not give oxygen to a baby if they wanted. Mr. Speaker, the sad fact of the matter is that under Saddam, per capita medical expenditure in Iraq was 50 cents